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**AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT:**

Please amend the Abstract as follows:

A telecommunications system comprises a source base station ( $BS_S$ ), a destination base station ( $BS_D$ ) having a synchronization searcher (s), and a synchronization start position determination unit (101) which establishes a start position (SP) of a synchronization search window for the synchronization searcher of the destination station. The synchronization search window detects, for synchronization purposes, a transmission of the specified mobile station received at the destination base station during a handover of a connection involving the specified mobile station from the source station to the destination base station. In accordance with an aspect of the present invention, the synchronization start position determination unit establishes the start position of the synchronization search window with reference to a calculated distance of the mobile station from the destination base station.